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Reply to Office Action of March 26, 2003

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this response, as the response places the application in clear condition for allowance, or alternatively places the claims in better form for appeal. In the response, an independent claim has been amended to overcome the outstanding rejection. Specifically, Claims 1-18 are pending; Claim 1 having been amended.

Applicants express thanks for the Examiner's indication that Claims 2-8, 10, and 12-18 are allowed.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,005,442 to Maeda et al. (Maeda). Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of the claims have been overcome for the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to a semiconductor power amplifier. Independent Claim 1 recites a resistor, one end of which is connected to an input terminal of a first transistor, and another end of which is connected to an input terminal of a second transistor (i.e., no other elements are disposed between the resistor and the inputs of the transistors).

Maeda is directed to a divider/combiner. As shown in Figure 27, for example, of Maeda, as best understood by Applicants in view of the numerous typographical errors in the printed patent, a divider 2710 includes a phase shifter 2720. The phase shifter 2720 has a capacitor 2721, a resistor (i.e., impedance element) 2722, and a capacitor 2723 arranged in series and connected with FETs (i.e., transistors) 2240,

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2244.[1]

Thus, Applicants respectfully assert that Maeda does not teach or suggest the claimed features of a resistor, one end of which is connected to an input terminal of a first transistor, and another end of which is connected to an input terminal of a second transistor, as recited in independent Claim 1. Rather, as discussed above, the capacitors 2721, 2723, rather than the resistor 2722, are connected with the FETs in Maeda (i.e., the capacitors 2721, 2723 are disposed between the impedance element 2722 and the transistors 2240, 2244).

Specifically, independent Claim 1 recites "a resistor, one end of which is connected to the input terminal of said first transistor, and another end of which is connected to the input terminal of said second transistor." Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn and the independent claim allowed.

Claims 9 and 11 depend from independent Claim 1, and are therefore also allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claim, as well as for their own features. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of dependent Claims 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) be withdrawn and the dependent claims allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-18 is earnestly solicited.

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[1] From column 23, line 38 to column 24, line 15.

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Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this

application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact

the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

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Respectfully submitted,

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